

Message Text

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN PARIS

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 SECTO 02023

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FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER

1. PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER.
 2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. MINISTER: IN A SPEECH TODAY BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY, I PUT FORWARD A PROPOSED APPROACH FOR THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN OIL PRODUCERS, OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND OIL CONSUMING COUNTRIES. THIS APPROACH IS INFORMED BY OUR CONVERSATION OF TWO WEEKS AGO. I HOPE IT WILL RECOMMEND ITSELF TO YOU.
 3. THE FIRST STEP, AS I SEE IT, WOULD BE TO RECONVENE THE PREPARATORY MEETING IN THE SAME FORMAT AS BEFORE. THE TIME COULD BE RELATIVELY SOON, CERTAINLY A MATTER OF MONTHS AS I SEE NO REASON FOR DELAY. I SUGGEST THAT THE FORMAT REMAIN THE SAME TO AVOID A TEDIOUS, NON-PRODUCTIVE NEGOTIATION OVER WHO WOULD ATTEND AND WHAT THE RULES OF PROCEDURE MIGHT BE. CLEARLY WE HAVE MORE IMPORTANT BUSINESS TO DO THAN THAT.
 4. THE SECOND STEP WOULD BE FOR THE PREPARATORY MEETING TO AGREE ON THE CREATION OF A NUMBER OF COMMISSIONS TO
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DEAL WITH THE CRITICAL ISSUES IN RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN

DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THUS COMMISSIONS MIGHT BE SET UP FOR ENERGY, FOR THE PROBLEMS OF THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED NATIONS, AND FOR RAW MATERIALS.

CONCEIVABLY THERE WOULD BE OTHERS. EACH COMMISSION WOULD REVIEW ALL ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM ASSIGNED TO IT: INCLUDING FINANCE, INVESTMENT, TRADE AND PRODUCTION.

5. THE WAY IN WHICH EACH COMMISSION PROCEEDS ABOUT ITS WORK WOULD DEPEND IN CONSIDERABLE MEASURE ON THE NATURE OF WORK ALREADY BEING DONE IN THE FIELD. FOR THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED, THERE IS ALREADY MUCH ACTIVITY, AND THE COMMISSION'S ROLE WOULD BE ESSENTIALLY TO MONITOR, TO SUPPLEMENT, AND TO ORIENT THAT WORK, GIVING IT THE THRUST AND PURPOSE IT MUST HAVE. THE COMMISSION ON RAW MATERIALS WOULD HAVE A SIMILAR ROLE. IN THE CASE OF ENERGY, SINCE THERE IS NO EXISTING INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION IN WHICH THE BASIC QUESTIONS ARE DEALT WITH, THE COMMISSION SHOULD ALSO FUNCTION AS A MEANS OF ADDRESSING AND RESOLVING THE UNDERLYING SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES.

6. IN EACH CASE, I WOULD ENVISAGE THAT THE BASIC ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN RAISED BE ADDRESSED. UNDER RAW MATERIALS, FOR EXAMPLE, YOU WOULD NO DOUBT WISH TO RAISE THE QUESTION OF TERMS OF TRADE.

AND WE WISH ON OUR SIDE TO CONSIDER HOW ADEQUATE RESOURCES CAN BE OBTAINED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RAW MATERIALS AND HOW IN GENERAL RAW MATERIAL MARKETS CAN BE MADE TO FUNCTION MORE EFFICIENTLY. ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS ON COMMODITIES WOULD REMAIN THE PURVIEW OF ALREADY EXISTING COMMODITY GROUPS SUCH AS FOR COFFEE, COCOA, TIN.

7. CLEARLY WE WOULD WANT TO LIMIT MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMISSIONS TO ASSURE THEIR EFFECTIVENESS. I THINK WE BOTH ARE ANXIOUS TO AVOID A NEW UNCTAD. IN MY SPEECH TODAY I SUGGESTED THAT WE SEEK TO LIMIT THE MEMBERSHIP BY APPROACHING OBJECTIVE CRITERIA. FOR

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RAW MATERIALS, FOR EXAMPLE, WE COULD INCLUDE THOSE COUNTRIES FOR WHICH EXPORTS OR IMPORTS FOR FOOD AND OTHER NON-OIL RAW MATERIALS CONSTITUTE A CERTAIN MINIMUM PERCENTAGE OF THEIR TOTAL NATIONAL PRODUCT,

AND SET THAT THRESHOLD HIGH ENOUGH TO KEEP THE NUMBERS WITHIN REASON. WE COULD DO THE SAME IN ENERGY. FOR THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED, WE WOULD HAVE TO SEEK

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 SECTO 02023

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ANOTHER FORMULA, ONE IN WHICH REPRESENTATIVE COUNTRIES WITH THE LOWEST CAPITA INCOME WERE CHOSEN ALONG WITH THE TRADITIONAL AND NEW DONORS..

8. THIS PROPOSED APPROACH HAS TWO ORIGINS. FIRST, OUR OWN THINKING WITHIN THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION ON RAW MATERIALS AND OTHER ISSUES OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAS BEEN EVOLVING OVER THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS. I EXPRESSED SOME OF THE FIRST IMPLICATIONS OF OUR NEW THINKING IN A SPEECH AT KANSAS CITY TWO WEEKS AGO. I WILL HAVE SOMETHING MORE TO SAY ABOUT THEM TOMORROW AT THE OECD MEETING.

9. THE SECOND SOURCE IS THE REALIZATION THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND A BASIS ON WHICH OIL PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS COULD DISCUSS THE NEW PROBLEMS OF ENERGY WITHOUT ADDRESSING THE ENTIRE RANGE OF RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

10. MY PROPOSAL IS THUS BROUGHT FORWARD IN A SPIRIT OF CONCILIATION AND INNOVATION. IN DOING SO, I DO NOT THINK WE SHOULD ATTEMPT TO DICTATE TOO CLOSELY THE TIMEFRAME OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSIONS -- THAT THEY COULD WORK SIMULTANEOUSLY OR CONSECUTIVELY AND

MIGHT, DEPENDING ON THE DIFFICULTY OF THE TASK AT
HAND, REQUIRE A SHORTER OR LONGER SPAN OF TIME -- NOR
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SHOULD WE ATTEMPT TO STRUCTURE TOO PRECISELY THEIR
RELATIONSHIP TO EACH OTHER. MY INTENT, RATHER, IS
TO FIND AN APPROACH WHICH RECOGNIZES BOTH THE ESSENTIAL
UNITY OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN SEEKING AN
IMPROVED RELATIONSHIP WITH THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES,
AND THE GREAT DIVERSITY OF INTERESTS, FORUMS, AND
SUBJECTS TO BE ADDRESSED.

11. THIS PROPOSAL, MR. MINISTER, IS INTENDED TO ENABLE

US ALL TO ADDRESS THE IMPORTANT ISSUE OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS
BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN A
DISCIPLINED AND SERIOUS FRAMEWORK, BUT WITHOUT
PREJUDICE. WHAT I HAVE ATTEMPTED TO DEFINE IS A NEUTRAL
MECHANISM, ONE THAT ADVANTAGES NO ONE, BUT ONE WHICH
EXPRESSES CLEARLY OUR SYMPATHY FOR THE ASPIRATIONS
OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND OUR UNDERSTANDING OF
THE DEMANDS THAT THEY HAVE ADVANCED. I WOULD BE
GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD GIVE ME YOUR PERSONAL REACTION.
I HOPE YOU CAN GIVE ME YOUR SUPPORT SO THAT WE MAY
SOON RELAUNCH THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, INCLUDING ON THE ISSUE OF
ENERGY, OF CAPITAL IMPORTANCE TO BOTH OUR COUNTRIES.
HENRY A. KISSINGER. END TEXT.

KISSINGER

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